

***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD***

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration

Mr. George McClusky  
Department of Arkansas Heritage  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

April 9, 2008

**Re: STB Docket No. AB – 384 (Sub-No. 1X), Delta Southern Railroad,  
Inc. – Abandonment Exemption – Between Lake Village, AR and  
Shelburn, LA**


Dear Mr. McClusky:

As you know, Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. (DSR), filed a notice of exemption with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) seeking authority to abandon a 30.0-mile portion of its Lake Providence Line, between milepost 433.0, near Lake Village, AR, and milepost 463.0, near Shelburn, LA. The Board's approval of the abandonment is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA), and is thus covered under its provisions. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is the office within the Board responsible for conducting the environmental review process pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, including the NHPA.

Your office submitted several requests for additional information about the proposed abandonment, including a 1:24,000 scale USGS topographic map that clearly delineates the project boundary.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of this letter is to notify your office that the portion of the rail line that is located between Lake Village and the state line has been sold for continued rail operations. In the event that the new owner decides to abandon this portion of the line in the future, it would have to seek Board authority and your office would be notified.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this proceeding, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 245-0299.

Sincerely,



Christa Dean  
Section of Environmental Analysis

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<sup>1</sup> One of those requests is included with this letter for reference purposes.

LAW OFFICE  
**THOMAS F. MCFARLAND, PC.**  
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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

April 1, 2008

By e-filing

Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.  
Acting Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W., Suite 1149  
Washington, DC 20024

Re Docket No. AB-384 (Sub-No. 1X), *Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. -- Abandonment  
Exemption -- Portion of the Lake Providence Line*

Dear Mr. Williams:

Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. (DSR) hereby seeks an extension of six months of the deadline for consummation of abandonment as to an 8.2-mile segment of rail line between Milepost 454.8 at the Arkansas-Louisiana State Line and Milepost 463.0 at or near Shelburn, Louisiana. That segment is part of a 30-mile rail line between Milepost 433.0 at or near Lake Village, AR and Milepost 463.0 at or near Shelburn, LA for which abandonment was authorized in a Board decision served April 7, 2005. The portion of that rail line between Lake Village and the State Line has been sold for continued rail operation. The deadline for providing notice of consummation of the 8.2-mile State Line-Shelburn segment was most recently extended by Board decision served October 5, 2007 until April 5, 2008. The six-month extension of that deadline would make the new deadline October 5, 2008. The extension is requested because DSR continues to attempt to sell that 8.2-mile segment for continued rail operation.

Very truly yours,

*Tom McFarland*

Thomas F. McFarland  
Attorney for Delta Southern  
Railroad, Inc.

TMCFM wp8 01/015/Usib10

cc Mr. Bill Wainright, by fax to 318-574-4029



# The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



## Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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May 9, 2006

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AI-2106  
LD

Mr. Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Multi-County - General  
Section 106 Review - STB; AHPP Tracking#53255  
Proposed Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. Abandonment  
Exemption Between Lake Village AR., And Shelburn,  
LA. Project

Dear Mr. Williams:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry, regarding properties of architectural, historical, or archeological significance in the area of the proposed referenced project.

In order for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) to complete its review of the proposed project, we will need the additional information checked below:

✓ a 7.5 minute 1:24,000 scale U.S.G.S. topographic map clearly delineating the project area;

✓ a project description detailing all aspects of the proposed project;

✓ the location, age, and photographs of structures (if any) to be renovated, removed, demolished, or abandoned as a result of this project;

— photographs of any structures 50 years old or older on property directly adjacent to the project area.

Once we have received the above information, we will complete our review as expeditiously as possible. If you have any questions, please contact me at (501) 324-9880.

Sincerely,

*George McCluskey*

George McCluskey  
Section 106 Review Coordinator